

THE REHEARSAL.

1. The *Observer* Arraigns the whole *Nation* of the *Scots* as *Traitors* to the *Government*, those Especially who are *Employ'd* by the *Government*.
2. That *Loyal Nation* Vindicated against him. With the *Contemptible Figure* the *Presbyterians* there make by his *Account*.
3. He wou'd have all the *Episcopal Men* in *Scotland* to be *Destroy'd*, which is the *Body* of the *Nation* as he *Reckons* them, Unless he thinks that the *Presbyterians* two were for the *Pretender*.
4. His *Maxim* wou'd have *Hang'd* the *Presbyterians* in former *Reigns*. This shews them their *Moderation* Now.
5. The *Case* of *Episcopacy* Now *Respects* not the *Civil Government* at all.
6. The *King*, *Parliament*, and *People* cannot make a *Bishop* or a *Priest*. We ought to *Obeys* no *Government* in the *Extirpation* of *Episcopacy*, but by *patient Suffering* for it.
7. The *Church* has been *Persecuted* by *Christian Princes*, as well as by the *Heathen*. The former the more *Dangerous* of the Two.
8. The *Presbyterians* have *Cut down* Themselves by their own *Argument*, and shew'd, That neither their *Toleration* in *England*, nor *Establishment* in *Scotland* takes away their *Schism*.

SATURDAY, December 18. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man*. **D**O you know, *Master*, what *Country-man* this *Observer* is?

Rehearsal. Why wou'd you know?

Country-m. I'm sure he can be no *Scots-Man*.

Rehearsal. Why so? You see he is a *Presbyterian*.

Country-m. No matter for that. The 20th man in *Scotland* is not a *Presbyterian*. But be what they will as to *Religion*, they don't forget that they are *Scots-Men*, nor love *Reflections* upon their *Country*. Now this *Observer* you were last upon of the 1st *Instant*, N. 83. Charges them All, as well those that are in the *Government*, as those that are out, as a *Whole Nation* of *Rogues* and *Traitors*. For having told (as Quoted in my Last) of some body (but he knows not who) that Pray'd for *King James VIII*. And was not *Prosecuted* for it, he makes this *Handsome Comment* upon it.

"Nay then I shall cease to Wonder any more at the *Pretender's* attempt to Land there, for he had very good Reason to think he wou'd be very *Welcome* to a *Country*, where he was Publickly Pray'd for without Controul. Nor shall I trouble my head any more to Enquire, why the *Scotch Garrisons* were so ill Provided, and the *Nation* in a Posture so Unfit to Oppose him.

Rehearsal. This is indeed *Plumb* upon the *Nation*, and not any *Particular Men*. Or if upon any, it is upon those *Entrusted* in the *Government*. For who else shou'd look after the *Garrisons*, and to put the *Nation* in a Posture of *Defence*?

(2) But I must speak a Word in behalf of that *Gallant Nation*. For of all the *Nobility* and *Gentlemen* (and they were no: a Few) who were brought up hither and Try'd there for this *Invasion*, every one of them are *Acquitted* with *Honour*. And if the *Design* was so *General* (as the *Observer* says) even to be *National*, it is *Strange* (and a thing unknown in *England*) That not one shou'd be found to *Sneek*, or become an *Informers*, either at the *Time*, or since, when they might have had *Rewards*, besides the saving of their own *Lives*, which lay at the *Mercy* of Every one of the Rest.

Country-m. Ther's no Reason to be given for it, unless we Suppose that not One *Presbyterian* was Concern'd. And if so, what a *Contemptible Figure* will the *Presbyterians* make (who Boast themselves the *Majority* of the *People*) that they shou'd be *Forgot* in a *National Concern*!

Rehearsal. If the *Observer* be a *Scots-man*, I fancy his *Heart* will Ake when he Reads this, for the *Affront* he has put upon his *Country*, and the *Mischief* he Intended them by it, to Expose them to the *Resentment* of

of the Government if his word were to be taken.

(3.) *Country-m.* He says in the same *Observer*, "That if the *Episcopal Party* in Scotland be of such *Seditious Principles* as still to look upon those as their lawful *Bishops*, who are set aside by the Authority of the *Law*, then 'tis Plain, they fly in the face of *Queen and Parliament*, and are *Declar'd Enemies* to the *Revolution*, her *Majesty's Title*, and the *Protestant Succession*, which would Justify much severer Measures, than any that have yet been taken against them; for those who Disown a Government, deserve none of its Protection, but to fall under the Weight of its Resentment.

(4.) *Rehears.* That's to be Hang'd, or Flead alive. For otherwise what Measures can be Severer than to take from a Man all he has in the World, to Bar up all Methods he can take for his Subsistence, and to put him into Prison, to Starve there? If this Method had been us'd in the Reigns of King Char. I. and II. against those who not only Disown'd their Government, but Rose in Arms against them, we had been Clear of their Dinn at this Day!

Country-m. Have a care Master! He'll say you wish they had been all Hang'd then. And then where is your Moderation?

Rehears. Just where his is, and upon much better Grounds, if I had made such a Wish, which is far from my Thoughts. But I would shew these Men their Moderation, by Seeing how they would Like it in other People!

(5.) *Country-m.* But how do's the Scots owning their Bishops make them Enemies to the Queen, the Protestant Succession, &c.

Rehears. It is Ridiculous! For the Scots and all other *Episcopal Men*, ought to do the same; and I hope would do it, under the Most Uncontested Title that ever was. If King Char. II. or the late King James had done as has been done in Scotland, they would have done the same. The same as the Primitive Christians, who Adher'd to their Bishops under all their Persecuting Kings and Emperors. Not by Rebellion and taking Arms against their Lawful Sovereigns, (that Doctrin the Presbyterians Learn'd from the Papists) but by Patient Suffering for and with their Bishops, whom Christ had set over them, by a Commission Independent of all the Kings and Parliaments in the World.

Country-m. He'll now Call the Philistines the Men of the Rights upon you—He'll Swear you speak Treason, and Affront the Government, and the Protestant Succession!

(6.) *Rehears.* And to Provoke these Infidels the more, and to give them all the

Handle (as they think) of the Law against me, I do here give it under my Hand, and will Maintain it before the Queen and Parliament (if they Require me) That it is not in their Power, and of all the People of Britain with them, to make a Bishop or a Priest. And that if they should Destroy all the Bishops in Britain and Ireland, and Require us to Live without Bishops, I would not Obey them, but seek for Bishops where I could get them; and with them Endure all the Persecution it should please God to Permit all the Powers on the Earth to lay upon us. Persecution is no new thing to the Church. And under Christian Princes as well as Heathen. And often more Severe from the Farmer than the Latter. For the Wounds of a Friend are Deeper than of an Enemy.

(7.) *Country-m.* And harder to be Car'd, and more Insinuating, Because they would make us Believe it is all for our Good, and may Deceive Many. While the Designs of profess'd Enemies are open.

(8.) But it would Provoke Patience to hear these Presbyterians now Accuse those as Seditious who own Bishops that are set aside by the Law, when they themselves have all along done it on behalf of their Schismatical and Traiterous Presbyters. And if their Argument is Good, then our Presbyterians are not the less Schismatical for their being Tolerated in England, or Establish'd in Scotland. Because they would not Allow it in the Case of Episcopacy, when that was Establish'd. So that they have Pronounc'd Sentence against Themselves.

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